

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Tests Showed Coliform Bacteria in the L.T. Davis Rest Area Domestic Water System

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants in the water system. During July 2011, we collected nine samples from our water system to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. Five of these samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. During September 2011, we collected five samples from our water system to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. Four of these samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. During October 2011, we collected nine samples from our water system to test for the presence of coliform bacteria. Four of these samples showed the presence of coliform bacteria. During November 2011, we collected four samples from our water system. Two of these samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than one sample per month may show the presence of coliform bacteria.

What Should You Do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

What Does This Mean?

This was not an emergency. If it was, you would have been notified immediately. Coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*

Usually, coliform bacteria are a signal that there may be a problem with our source of supply, storage, or distribution systems. Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or E. coli, are present. We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing, and further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.

What Happened? What Was Done?

On July 19, 2011, we collected a routine sample from the distribution system that was found to contain total coliform bacteria. Four repeat samples were then collected on July 21, 2011, including one sample from the well source, all of which were found to contain total coliform bacteria. The water system was inspected and no obvious signs of contamination were found. The well, storage, and distribution systems were then disinfected and flushed. Four additional samples collected on July 28, 2011, were all absent of total coliform bacteria. On September 20, 2011, we collected a routine sample from the distribution system that was found to contain total coliform bacteria. Four repeat samples were then collected on September 22, 2011, three of which were found to contain total coliform bacteria. The sample from the well source was absent of total coliform bacteria. The storage tank and distribution system were then disinfected and flushed. On October 4, 2011, five routine samples were collected from the water system; two from the well source, one from the storage tank, and one from the distribution system. Of these samples, the storage tank sample was found to contain total coliform bacteria. Four additional repeat samples were collected on October 11, 2011, of which three were found to contain total coliform bacteria. On October 19, 2011, The California Department of Public Health inspected the facility and did not identify any deficiencies with the water system which would lead to contamination. On November 15, 2011, four routine samples were collected from the water system; one from the well source, one from the storage tank, and two from the distribution system. While the samples from the well and storage tank were absent of total coliform bacteria, the two samples from the distribution system were found to contain total coliform bacteria. We are currently working in conjunction with the California Department of Public Health to identify and eliminate the source of contamination.

For more information please contact John Dobson at (530) 225-2460.

This notice is being provided to you by Caltrans in compliance with the California Domestic Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations as a means of keeping the public informed.